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AUTHOR	Hably, Wesley R., Ed.; Morales, Ricardo H., Ed.
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ABSTRACT

This report presents results from the fifth national ACT, Inc. survey on the status of academic advising in colleges and universities. This report used a new stratified, random sample of 2-year, 4-year, public, and private institutions drawn from the population of institutions that met survey criteria. Of the sample of 1,395 institutions, responses were received from 754 (54.1%). Summarizing the data was complicated by the number of survey items and the number of responses; more than 3,000 data elements are reported. Some conclusions are apparent. Important gains in the coordination of campus-wide advising programs have reached a plateau, but other aspects of coordination have not improved. Results also make it evident that institutions appear to be gravitating toward organizational models that share responsibility for advising. Overall, practices that support faculty advising are unsystematic, and although academic centers are becoming more prevalent and more diverse, their situation remains in crisis. Advising practices in 4-year institutions lag behind practices in other types of institutions. A look at the responding institutions in light of previous surveys suggests that goal achievement has improved, but program effectiveness has remained static. (Contains 46 tables.) (SLD)

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